

Message Text

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12

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R 050546Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2103

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS AMMAN 4537

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

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SUBJ: JORDANIAN EDITORIAL COMMENT REINFORCING PM RIFAI'S CALL
FOR PRE-GENEVA JORDANIAN/ISRAELI SEPARATION OF FORCES

REF: AMMAN 4503

1. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN ALL THREE AMMAN DAILIES AUGUST 4 STRESSES CORRECTNESS OF PRIME MINISTER RIFAI'S AIRPORT DEPARTURE STATEMENT (REFTTEL) AUGUST 3 TO EFFECT THAT JORDAN WILL NOT GO TO GENEVA UNLESS ISRAELI-JORDANIAN DISENGAGEMENT EXECUTED ON WEST BANK.

2. AD-DUSTOUR NOTES JORDAN RIVER DISENGAGEMENT WILL PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR JORDANIAN PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA. "IT IS NOW UP TO THE U.S. AND SOVIET UNION, IN THEIR CAPACITY AS THE
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ORGANIZERS OF THE CONFERENCE, TO ACHIEVE A SEPARATION OF FORCES..

SIMILAR TO THAT ACHIEVED ON THE SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN FRONTS. THIS IS THE MINIMUM STEP WHICH WILL PROVE ISRAEL'S SERIOUS INTENTION..TO BRING ABOUT PEACE BASED ON RES 242". PAPER GOES ON TO SAY THAT JORDANIAN INSISTENCE IS MEANT TO REMIND ARABS OF NECESSITY OF UNIFICATION OF EFFORTS. "BY NOTIFYING THE ARAB BROTHERS IN ADVANCE ABOUT ITS ATTITUDE, JORDAN IS LEAVING THE DOOR WIDE OPEN FOR THE ARABS TO BEAR THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES... JORDAN HAS NEVER HESITATED TO BEAR ITS RESPONSIBILITIES."

3. AR-RAI ECHOES SAME LINE. "MR. ZAYD RIFAI WAS SPECIFIC IN HIS STATEMENT WHEN HE SAID THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. KISS-INGER WILL CENTER ON JORDANIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT AS A FIRST STEP TOWARD TOTAL WITHDRAWAL...THE SEPARATION OF FORCES ON THE JORDANIAN FRONT IS COMPLEMENTARY TO THE SEPARATION ON THE SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN FRONTS. WITHOUT THIS STEP, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR JORDAN TO JOIN THE GENEVA TALKS...SEASONAL DISCUSSIONS AND STATEMENTS MUST NOT DIVERT OUR ATTENTION FROM THE ORIGIN OF THE PROBLEM, AS REPRESENTED BY TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORY, INCLUDING JERUSALEM. OUR DEMAND FOR SEPARATION ON OUR FRONT IS CONSIDERED TO BE A FIRST STEP TOWARD COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL".

4. AS-SABAH ASKS, "WHY WAS JORDAN INVITED TO GENEVA IF THE SUBJECT OF SEPARATION OF FORCES IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION?...IF ISRAEL IS ASSUMING THAT ARAB DIFFERENCES WILL ALLOW HER TO REMAIN ON THE WEST BANK, THEN THE EGYPTIAN-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE PROVED THAT ARAB DISAGREEMENTS CANNOT BE USED TO ISRAEL'S BENEFIT. PAPER CONCLUDES BY PRAISING RIFAI STATEMENT, AND NOTES "WE LOOK FORWARD TO A COLLECTIVE ARAB STAND ON THE SUBJECT OF GOING TO GENEVA.."
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